

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 14617 111738Z
ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 /034 W
-----080710 111937Z /44

R 111727Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9881
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA

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USEEC

USDEL MTN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EEC, UK
SUBJECT: DOMESTIC CONTENT IN UK TELEVISION SETS

REF: STATE 227007

1. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS NOT ADOPTED A POLICY
REQUIRING A MINIMUM OF 60 PERCENT DOMESTIC CONTENT IN
TELEVISION SETS PRODUCED IN THE UK, AS FAR AS THE EMBASSY
IS ABLE TO DETERMINE.

2. IN RESPONSE TO REFTTEL, WE DISCUSSED THIS MATTER
WITH SEVERAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES. PREDICTABLY, IT EMERGES THAT THE UK
GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGES DOMESTIC MANUFACTURERS TO
MAXIMIZE UK CONTENT, BUT THIS IS DONE BY "JAWBONING" AND
NO SPECIFIC FIGURES APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN SET FOR
DOMESTIC CONTENT. THE GOVERNMENT'S BASIC POLICY IS
TO (A) PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO STRENGTHEN
DOMESTIC TUBE/COMPONENT MANUFACTURING CAPACITY AND
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(B) SEND TECHNICAL EXPERTS TO VARIOUS PRODUCERS AND
USERS OF UK COMPONENTS, STRESSING THE BENEFITS OF
BUYING BRITISH.

3. IN FACT, THE UK GOVERNMENT APPARENTLY HAS NO LEGAL
AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR DOMESTIC CONTENT
IN TELEVISION SETS. IN ADDITION, SUCH A POLICY WOULD

ALMOST CERTAINLY VIOLATE THE TREATY OF ROME ESTABLISHING
THE EC.

BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Concepts: TELEVISION, PRODUCTION, LAW
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Draft Date: 11 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: d75f7053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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TAGS: ETRD, UK, EEC
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